

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 2, and 17-19 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims as shown below:

Claims 1 and 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): A process for the fermentative preparation of L-amino acids in Corynebacterium glutamicum ~~eoryneform~~ bacteria, comprising:

- a) fermenting the ~~eoryneform~~ bacteria, in which at least the ~~Corynebacterium glutamicum~~ gene encoding 1-phosphofructokinase is eliminated by a method of mutagenesis selected from the group consisting of insertion of at least one base pair, deletion of at least one base pair, and transition or transversion mutagenesis with incorporation of a nonsense mutation, in a medium and for a time suitable for the formation of the L-amino acids; and
- b) accumulating the produced L-amino acids in medium or in the cells of the bacteria .

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method according to claim 3, further comprising:

- c) isolating the L-amino acid.

Claim 6 (original): The method according to claim 5, wherein the medium includes a fermentation broth and constituents of the fermentation broth remain in the end product in some proportion of their original quantity.

Claim 7 (original): The method according to claim 5, wherein constituents of a biomass of the cells remain in the end product in some proportion of their original quantity.

Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 3, wherein the L-amino acids are L-lysine.

Claims 9-14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method according to claim 3, wherein the bacteria being fermented further comprise one or more overexpressed genes selected from the group consisting of:

- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes aspartate kinase,
- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes dihydrodipicolinate synthase,
- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase,
- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes pyruvate carboxylase,
- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes malate:quinone oxidoreductase,
- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase,
- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes a the lysE protein that exports lysine,
- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes the zwf1 protein,
- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes triosephosphate isomerase, and
- the ~~Coryneform glutamicum~~ gene that encodes 3-phosphoglycerate kinase.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method according to claim 3, wherein the bacteria being fermented ~~further comprise~~ have expression of one or more genes, ~~which are~~ endogenous to said bacteria being eliminated, wherein the one or more genes is/are selected from the group consisting of:

the ~~Corynebacterium glutamicum~~ gene that encodes phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase,

the ~~Corynebacterium glutamicum~~ gene that encodes glucose-6-phosphate isomerase,

the ~~Corynebacterium glutamicum~~ gene that encodes pyruvate oxidase,

the ~~Corynebacterium glutamicum~~ gene that encodes fructose biphosphate aldolase, and

the ~~Corynebacterium glutamicum~~ gene that encodes the zwa2 protein, and

wherein said elimination is achieved by a method of mutagenesis selected from the group consisting of insertion of at least one base pair, deletion of at least one base pair, and transition or transversion mutagenesis with incorporation of a nonsense mutation.

Claims 17-19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (currently amended): The method according to claim 3, wherein said ~~Corynebacterium glutamicum~~ gene encoding 1-phosphofructokinase is a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of nucleotides 609 to 1598 of SEQ ID NO: 3.